



## Arts and Letters Awards

November 4, 2 p.m., Central Library Auditorium

### From the President



Dear Friends,

Hope you are able to attend our Arts and Letters Awards on November 4. The recipients this year are **Kenneth Freudigman**, principal cellist for our SA Symphony, and **Gini Garcia**, an artist in glass blowing. I look forward to meeting and honoring such talented San Antonians.

The Book Cellar had a sale the weekend before Halloween, October 26–28. Of course, they still have more books coming in every day. So plan to stop in and do some holiday shopping. You can find the perfect book in the Book Cellar for everyone on your list—from little Joey to Great-Aunt Amelia!

Our Friends have new groups forming at Collins Gardens Branch Library and at the new John Igo Branch Library (which opens December 8 at 10 a.m.). If you want to join one of these new groups, just note it on your membership renewal envelope.

Lastly, I was very sorry to learn of the death of our Past President, **Lee LaCaff**. She was such a very dear Friend and a wonderfully strong advocate for San Antonio's library system. Our condolences go out to her husband, Robert. We will all miss Lee.

Your friend,  
**Linda Nairn**

*Each year, the Friends of the San Antonio Public Library honor members of the community who contribute in some remarkable way to the cultural enrichment of San Antonio. This year, the Friends 32nd Arts and Letters Awards presentation honors two distinctly talented individuals, **Gini Garcia**, a hot glass designer, and cellist **Kenneth Freudigman**.*

#### Gini Garcia

**G**arcia Art Glass was founded in 1998. After receiving her B.F.A. in industrial and environmental design, **Gini Garcia** eventually opened a



hot glass design and fabrication center that specializes in the creation of one-of-a-kind blown glass lighting and sculpture, including tablescapes and art for the wall. These creations, made to client specifications, range

from the functional to the whimsical for homes, corporate offices, restaurants, and hospitals.

Recently, Ms. Garcia traveled to Murano, Italy, and studied the "Chandelier for the New Millennium." Using blown glass as a filter for light, each of Gini's creations is designed with the overall environment in mind. Recent clients include AT&T, Wells Fargo, United Way, Volvo, and Warner Brothers, as well as numerous restaurants and hundreds of residential commissions. Garcia Art Glass, Inc. employs talented team members with a combined experience of fifty years in design, blown glass fabrication, lighting, metal work and installation. Her studio is on South Alamo. (From [www.garciaartglass.com](http://www.garciaartglass.com))

#### Kenneth Freudigman

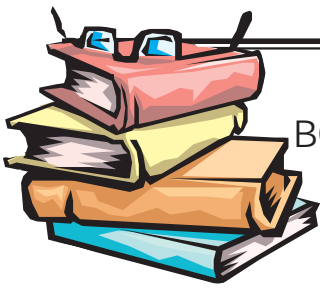
**K**enneth Freudigman is co-founder of Camerata San Antonio, principal cellist of the San Antonio Symphony, adjunct professor of cello at the University of Texas at San Antonio, education director of the Cactus Pear Music Festival, and a highly respected cello pedagogue.

Mr. Freudigman began playing the violin at age six and found his true love, the cello, at the age of nine.



After six years of study, he was accepted to attend the prestigious Interlochen Center for the Arts. After graduating with honors in music performance he went on to receive a Bachelor of Music from the Eastman School of Music. He began his orchestral and chamber music career while at Eastman, winning a position with the Rochester Philharmonic and was also a founding member of the Esterhazy Chamber Ensemble. In 1992, Mr. Freudigman joined the New World Symphony, an advanced training orchestra for recent graduates of music schools, under the direction of **Michael Tilson Thomas**. He has also performed with the Grand Rapids, Charleston, and Virginia Symphony Orchestras, as well as the Sarasota Opera and the Mexico City Philharmonic. Mr. Freudigman was also a

*Continued on p 5.*



Friends of the San Antonio Public Library  
 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING HIGHLIGHTS  
 Thousand Oaks — September 16, 2007

Submitted by *Sheila Figueroa, Secretary*

**Call to Order:** Linda Nairn, President, called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.

**Board of Directors and Officers:** Linda Nairn, Sheila Figueroa, Nancy Gandara, Linda Arronge, Vera Banner, Pat Brown, Aaron Konstam, Claudia Kohler, Rowena Rodgers, Pat Mendiola, Evanleen Schmueckle, Anna Cleve, Ronnie Retzlöff, Pat Konstam, Alan Cutler

**Branch Representatives:** Libby Roussin, Dorothy Smith, Delores Huber, Alan Hildreth, Tom Anderson, Pat Peak, Cynthia Massey, Cathy Dean

**Others:** Rose Marie McElfresh (Arts and Letters Chair), Lora Eckler (District 6 representative of the Library Board of Trustees), Rowena Roby (Carver Friends President), Shirley Coleman, Barbara Reagan, Gloria Malone (District 2 representative of the Library Board of Trustees)

**SAPL Administration:** Mark Gretchen

**SAPL Trustee Chair:** Jean Brady

**SAPL Foundation:** Sarah Swinney

The Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as amended. The amendments are as follows: The first amendment was to the last sentence of **Jean Brady's** report—"The Library Board will return to City Council on or near August 2 to present the library district plan." The second amendment was to **Aubrey George's** report "Aubrey asked each of us to speak with our City Council person with regard to the city budget." Also, **Vera Banner** was reported as present at the July meeting but she was not in attendance at the July meeting.

**President's Report:** Linda Nairn reported she had been to several City Council meetings and an open forum on the library budget. City Council increased the

library's budget. There was low Friends attendance at the City Council meeting on the library budget. Linda stated that she wants a political advocacy committee in place for next year.

**Treasurer's Report:** Nancy Gandara distributed a report as of Aug 31, 2007. The Treasurer's Report was accepted and filed for audit.

**REPORTS:**

**John "Chico" Newman, Jr.**, Chair of the Blue Ribbon Library District Commission (and Member of the Friends), thanked the Friends for all they do. He reported that the library district is "dead" for now, having been knocked off track by other initiatives. He stated that we have to change our approach and be political advocates—document complaints, make telephone calls, write letters, provide photographs, etc. to City Council. Elected officials will respond to citizens. He also suggested we send thank you notes to City Manager **Sheryl Sculley** as she was pro-library, especially in supporting an increase in the 2008 library budget. Chico stated this is going to be a grass roots effort.

**Library Board:** Jean Brady, Chair, thanked the Friends for all of their support, especially those who supported her in her talk to the City Council. Jean complimented Carver's refurbishment. She asked for some "library stories" about the public library system, including small business library stories. The stories will be compiled and shown to the City Council to promote the library.

**Library Administration:** Mark Gretchen thanked the Friends for their support, especially of \$33,000 for equipment. The 2008 operating budget approved by City Council is \$3.4 million, including \$600,000 for the first year of a 3-year staffing plan, which will add 14 staff of an eventual 40; and \$366,000 for 250 new public service computers. Renovations are

scheduled for Johnston, Pan American, McCreless and Cortez.

**Kendra Trachta** has been hired to replace **Beth Bermel** as manager of public services at Central Library; **Roberto Zapata** is the manager of the Forest Hills Branch library.

**Library Foundation:** Sarah Swinney. The children's author and book program was very successful at the Pearl Stable. The **Rick Riordan** children's series is very popular. The Library Foundation has moved to the house at 625 Shook Avenue next to the Landa Branch library. Sarah asked that we please support the library card enrollment campaign: by May 2008 the goal is to have one million cardholders. On Oct 25, the 1 Book 1 San Antonio campaign will have a dinner thanking **Stephen Harrigan**, author of the *Gates of the Alamo*. Workshops are scheduled tentatively for Nov 6 and 13 teaching parents and grandparents how to write and make a book about their lives.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Arts & Letters: Committee** Chair **Ro McElfresh** stated that two people were selected to receive the Arts & Letters Award: **Kenneth Freudigman**, principal cellist of the San Antonio Symphony and co-founder of Camerata San Antonio, and **Gini Garcia**, an art glass blower and designer. The Arts & Letters Award ceremony will be held Nov 4 at 2:00 p.m. in the main auditorium at the Central Library. **Linda Arronge** volunteered to head the refreshments committee for the ceremony.

**Audit Committee:** **Judy Wilson** was not present. **Nancy Gandara** reported that the Compass Bank located across the street from the Central Library would be the best bank (of the ones visited) to open a money market account for depositing the Book Cellar receipts. She said the account will

*Continued on p 5.*



The Friends, inaugurated March 23, 1964, promote public use of the San

Antonio Public Library and appreciation of its value as a cultural and educational asset to the community and encourage the extension and improvement of its services.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Linda Nairn . . . . . President  
 Bruce Gill . . . . . Vice President  
 Nancy Gandara . . . . . Treasurer  
 Sheila Figueroa . . . . . Secretary  
 Lee LaCaff . . . . . Immediate Past Pres

**BOARD MEMBERS**

**2006–2008 Term**

Anna Cleve • Alan Cutler  
 Teresa Garza • Pat Konstam  
 Josie Martinez • Janie Oosterveen  
 Ronnie Retzlöff

**2007–2009 Term**

Linda Arronge • Vera Banner  
 Betty Kelly Berry • Pat Brown  
 Lucy Gale • Lou Harris  
 Claudia Kohler • Aaron Konstam  
 Pat Mendiola • Rowena Rodgers  
 Evanleen Schmueckle  
 Judy Wilson

**SAPLINGS**

Newsletter published every two months for the information of member Friends of the San Antonio Public Library and others supportive of our ideals and activities.

Managing Editor . . . . . Alana Woods  
 FOSAPL Editor. . . . . Cathy Dean

Southwest Research Institute® provides partial funding for printing the newsletter.

**NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE**

Lyn Belisle, Chair • Cathy Dean  
 Nancy Gandara • Bruce Gill  
 Rowena Rodgers  
 Linda Nairn, *Ex Officio*  
 Mary McAfee, *Distribution*

**Article contributions for publishing in the newsletter are always welcome!**

**The deadline for submitting articles and photos to SAPLings is the 15th of the month**

**(February 15, April 15, June 15, August 15, October 15, and December 15)**

Articles to be submitted should be a simple text file or in Word or WordPerfect. Please email files and photos to **Alana Woods** at <awoods@swri.org> and Cathy Dean at <ca-dean@sbcglobal.net>. Hard copy articles and photos should be mailed to Alana Woods at Southwest Research Institute, 6220 Culebra Rd., 78238.



## Brook Hollow

The calendar may say Fall, but it's still warm and dry in south Texas! Even with this past summer's heat, most of our Texas Xeriscape plants have done well, becoming established and blooming throughout late summer and early fall. We are now looking forward to adding additional color as the temperature cools, in time for people to enjoy as they come to our fall book sale, scheduled for Saturday, November 17.

On October 19, the Brook Hollow staff honored their library's volunteers, many of whom are also active in the Library Friends. We enjoyed a wonderful dinner and visited with staff members young and old, swapping tales of books read, movies viewed, and life here in south Texas.

Please come on over to the Brook Hollow branch on Saturday, November 17, and pick up some great reading bargains!

*Richard Bowser*

## Cody

Cody's latest one-day book sale was fine-tuned to maximize customer convenience and satisfaction. Even though our sorting room and sale room are too small, and we face constraints in scheduling our book sales because of the frequent use of the meeting rooms by other city agencies and programs, still,

we brought in \$3,086. We're currently having an eMeeting to discuss what went right and what could have gone better. A really big word of appreciation goes out to the board members **Mickey Tehan**, **Judy Malter**, and **Lynnette Poss**, who've responded over and above in sorting and boxing books on a weekly basis. Having said that, I have to say that we have a very active group of board members overall. Finally, I spoke with **Carlta Cody** after the sale to let her know how we did; **Ed** still plays golf, and they both keep busy.

*Carol Van Cleave*

## Maverick

The energy created by the summer reading program has carried over into fall at the Maverick Library.

Maverick Friends' third book sale on September 15 received great support from the community. We had over 300 buyers and raised \$3,045 for the library. Thanks to all the folks who donated and bought books and media, and the volunteers who worked to make the sale a success.

Several events were scheduled to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month. La loteria games were held at the library, members of the San Antonio Charro Association visited and presented information about Mexican rodeo traditions, and classes were offered in Latin dance and papel picado.

Librarian **Derika Bailey** recently joined the Maverick staff and started a Teen Book Club. The club meets on the third Tuesday of the month from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. For more information, contact Derika at the library at 210-680-9346.

Maverick Friends are already busy planning for our next book sale, our annual

holiday get together, and the library's second birthday. We meet at the library on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. New Friends are always welcome.

*Sue Ratliff*

## Forest Hills

Forest Hills Library is just brimming with activity as its new manager **Roberto Zapata** takes the reigns. Mr. Zapata comes to us from the Houston Public Library. Forest Hills' staff is delighted to have a new manager with a fresh outlook and creative ideas. Welcome Roberto!

**Patricia Toledo**, a Central Library transplant with 10 years of SAPL experience, takes over critical circulation desk duties for now-retired **Maria Elena Rodriguez**, who was at Forest Hills for 14 years.

Forest Hills, a long-time provider of quality adult programs, such as the monthly Contrarian Book Club, History of the Month Club, Presidios and Missions, and Rosary Beading Workshops, is providing a new Embroidery Workshop on the last Wednesday of each month, at 10 a.m.

The sprucing up of the Forest Hills' Children's Department is nearly complete, with a new Children's Information Center and donated children's activity table in place.

Our thanks to the Forest Hills Friends of the Library, who held another successful book sale in August, earning \$865 for library equipment and programming.

*Marcia Valvo*

## McCreless

November will be an exciting month for the McCreless Branch Friends group.

A business meeting will be held Wednesday, November 7, 7:00 p.m. in the newly refurbished meeting room at the library. In addition to the business meeting, **Deborah Douglas, M.D.**, a retired pathologist and a cancer survivor will present her newest book, *Foot Soldiers: Stories from the Breast Cancer 3-Day Walk*. The origin of the book was the author's overcoming anxiety to prove to herself that despite the cancer, she could still be adventuresome. An added bonus from the author is the stories of incredible coping skills that are shared by other cancer survivors.

In addition, the Friends will receive an update from District 3 Councilman **Roland Gutierrez** on plans for both the new library and McCreless library. Then on Saturday, November 10, there will be a one-day book sale at the library from 9:00 a.m.–4:30 pm.

*Jill Zimmerman*

## Semmes

The month of November is a great month for the Semmes Friends as it's Birthday Month for the Semmes Library. This year on November 3, we'll help the community and library staff celebrate the second year of Semmes service. Celebration activities this year include cake (of course!) with a cutting ceremony at 11:00. The Wood Middle School Band will perform, and we are finalizing other surprises so be sure to visit us Nov. 3!

November is also the month to mark general thanksgiving for the year's blessings and bounty. The Semmes Friends have much to be thankful for. Through the generosity of all our book

*Continued on p 4.*

donors and library system friends, we had our most successful of all (3!) book sales on September 15. We earned over twice the amount of proceeds from our last book sale. We believe a number of factors contributed to this success: large volume of materials of exceptional quality (thank you donors!), modifications to our advertising, which included outside street corner banner display for 2 weeks prior to the sale, notice in the August *SAPLings* and at the Book Cellar, and advertising bookmarks put in checked-out books and graciously taken by some local businesses. Friends and friends of Friends also put in more hours with setup, the sale itself from 9-4, and then tear-down of the sale. We're looking forward to being able to purchase directional signs and other accessories to enhance Semmes' service such as voting, community receptions, Internet access, and self checkout. Mark your calendars now and plan on visiting us March 1, 2008, for our next book sale.

It is with mixed emotions that the Semmes Friends note the departure of three of our branch library staff. **D.L. Grant** has already joined Carver branch as the Assistant Branch Manager, **Sylvia Reyna** joins Central in the Texana Department, and in November **Dr. Haley Holms** moves to the new Igo branch. We will miss them all and have enjoyed working with them these past two years. Each one is a gem, and their new branches are very fortunate to have them join their staffs. We wish them well in their new positions.

On a final note, we are also planning our Christmas tree trimming party on December

1 from 10-12. We expect to have an ornament-making event along with refreshments. There is even a rumor that Santa's sage violin-playing elf may make an appearance! Hope to see you then.

*Christie Smith*

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## Thousand Oaks

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The Thousand Oaks Library will celebrate its 20th year with a Birthday party November 17. The Friends will assist in the celebration, which will include refreshments and entertainment.

The Children's area in the library will be improved with support of the Friends. They have purchased a rug, a table with four chairs, and a CD rack for use by the young patrons of the library.

A scrapbook is being developed by the Friends. They are collecting pictures of past activities for inclusion in the book.

The second book sale of the year will be held November 3 from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

*Leila Hileman*

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## Tobin at Oakwell

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Seen browsing through the History and Biography section at our August book sale, was our distinguished neighbor, writer, and cultural historian **Dr. Jacques Barzun**. Dr. Barzun will celebrate his 100th birthday in November. Many happy returns from your friends at Tobin/Oakwell.

We continued our experiment with a Friday afternoon pre-sale for members of Friends of Tobin at Oakwell Library during our August sale. It is proving very popular, and we have decided to expand the concept at our

next sale. ALL MEMBERS OF FRIENDS OF SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC LIBRARY are invited to our next PREVIEW AND SALE, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16 from 1 to 4 p.m. The sale will be open to the general public on Saturday, November 17 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Our Board of Directors has two new members-at-large. Welcome aboard, **Alethea Bugg** and **Rita Corey**.

We had to postpone our Annual Membership Meeting and Election of Officers due to the closing of our library for renovations. The library will be closed October 3 through 23. The meeting will now be held on Saturday, December 1 at 2 p.m. in our brand new meeting room. The guest speaker, **Lou Stafford**, is a retired teacher/librarian with a diverse and interesting background. She has taught language arts, reading, English, and speech to every level from grade five through college undergraduate courses. The last ten years of her professional life were spent working for Windham School District as regional librarian for the south Texas Region of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. Her base unit was at the McConnell Unit in Beeville, Texas, a maximum-security prison housing approximately 3,000 men. She was also responsible for a smaller unit, the Glossbrenner Unit at San Diego, Texas, and helped conduct inventories, provide training, and perform other library duties for all the units in the region. We look forward to hearing about her experiences.

*Joan Hildreth*

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## Writer Friends

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### Newspaper Editors to Speak at Writer Friends November Meeting

**Newton Renfro**, editor of the *Helotes Echo*, and **Douglas Kirk**, editor of the *Bulverde Standard*, will participate in a panel discussion on the "The Politics of Small Town Newspaper Writing" at the quarterly meeting of the Writer Friends of the San Antonio Public Library, Tuesday, November 13, 7:00 p.m., at the Cody Library, 11441 Vance Jackson, San Antonio.

Renfro started his newspaper career at *The Times-Picayune* in New Orleans. He owned a weekly newspaper in Granby, Missouri, from 1992 until he moved to Texas in 1998. He has worked for Texas Heritage Newspapers, Inc., as a reporter for the *Hill Country Recorder*, editor of the *Bandera Review*, and as editor of the *Helotes Echo* since 2004. Nominated for a Pulitzer Prize in 1975, Renfro has won several state newspaper association and Associated Press awards in Louisiana and Missouri, including a first place award for feature writing in 1996 by the National Newspaper Association.

Kirk purchased the *Bulverde Standard*, a small town newspaper, in 1996. The newspaper won first place in Community Service and first place in Politics and Government at the Houston Press Club Lone Star Awards competition in 2005. A former president of the Canyon Lake Writers' Guild, Kirk was a full-time freelance writer before purchasing the newspaper, publishing 350 articles in 30 different national magazines.

The presentation is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served.

*Cynthia Massey*

founding member of the American Sinfonietta.

His orchestra engagements have taken him to the major concert halls of Europe, the Middle East, and throughout South and North America. In addition to his orchestral experience, Mr. Freudigman has performed chamber music with members of the Amadeus and Cleveland quartets and with the pianist **Jean-Yves Thibaudet**. He has been a featured soloist with the World Youth and New World Symphony Orchestras and the Mexico City Philharmonic, where he was engaged to perform Shostakovich's First Cello Concerto in 2000. Mr. Freudigman can be heard in recordings on the Argo and Summit record labels and is featured with **Renee Fleming** and the New World Symphony Orchestra performing Bachianas Brasileiras by **Heitor Villa-Lobos** on BMG Classics. (From [music.utsa.edu/Faculty/freudigman/index.html](http://music.utsa.edu/Faculty/freudigman/index.html))

## Nominating Committee Report

The members of the Nominating Committee:

**Pat Brown**  
**Lucille Teeter**  
**Cathy Dean**  
**Claudia Kohler**  
**Mary McAfee**

The following Friends' members have accepted the Committee's nomination for 2008–2010 SAPL Board of Directors.

**Robbi Ruppert**  
**Pat Konstam**  
**Delores Huber**  
**Shirley Davis**  
**Dorothy Smith**

These names will be presented at the Annual Meeting January 20, 2008. The floor will be open for additional nominees. If you want to nominate someone, you must have his or her approval. If you have any questions, please call **Mary McAfee** 210-695-9287 or **Pat Brown** 210-541-9225

*Mary McAfee*

## Book Cellar News

The Book Cellar is featuring holiday-themed books



in November and December—not only Thanksgiving, Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, and New Year's, but holidays year 'round. There are books on Valentine's Day, Easter, Passover, Fourth of July, and lots of other celebrations. So think ahead. Choices include crafts, cooking, art, stories, and history—for adults and for children. Some books are specially priced, but many cost 25 cents to \$1.00.

Speaking of holidays, remember the Book Cellar as a source of nice gifts that don't cost a lot of money. The store has new and nearly new fiction, antique books, and specialized books on all sorts of hobbies and interests.

To allow volunteers to spend the holidays with their families, the Book Cellar will be closed for Thanksgiving on Wednesday through Friday, Nov. 21–23. It will be closed for Christmas on Monday and Tuesday, Dec. 24–25, and for New Year's on Monday and Tuesday, Dec. 31 and Jan. 1.

*Pat Konstam*

### Minutes, from p 2.

also earn interest. **Alan Cutler** moved that **Nancy Gandara** and/or **Linda Nairn** open the account at Compass Bank and have withdrawal rights on that account; **Ronnie Retzloff** seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

**Book Cellar:** **Aaron Konstam** reported that the Book Cellar is ahead \$2,000 from last year. Volunteers are also being added at a greater rate. Volunteers are needed for the next book sale scheduled for Oct 26-28. Money was spent to get two book carts, stools, and a dolly. The Texas Public Radio advertising campaign was just completed. There will be a Yellow Pages listing for the Book Cellar for a cost of \$384.

**Membership:** **Claudia Kohler** reported that there are 838 paid memberships.

**Memorials/Honorariums:** **Sheila Figueroa** reported that numerous memorials had been received in the past couple of

months and letters go out to the donors within 24-48 hours.

**Newsletter:** **Cathy Dean** thanked **Lyn Belisle** for her help with the newsletter; 731 copies of the newsletter had been mailed; **Mary McAfee** is still looking for someone to take over her position of helping to mail the newsletter and take it to the Bulk Mail department of the post office—it takes 3 to 4 people.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

**Linda Nairn** stated that she will table the idea of preparing certificates for life members as **Lee LaCaff** is ill.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

**Linda Nairn** requested a nominating committee for board members and officers. The slate is needed for presentation at the annual meeting in January. **Pat Brown** volunteered to be chair of this committee.

#### Branch News and Announcements:

**Bazan** will have a book sale on Sept 15. On July 16 a week-long celebration for its 30th anniversary was held. Plans are under way for a holiday reception for staff and patrons. **Carver** was thanked for supplying refreshments for the Friends board meeting this date. A thank you note was read from **Donna Bill** to the Friends for paying for a clown performance. There will be a book sale on Oct 27. **Cody** is currently using the RFID system. It is working properly. A book sale will be held on Oct 6. **Guerra** will hold a book sale on Nov 10 and 11. **McCreless** will have a book sale on Nov 10. **Maverick** had a mini book sale. They will have another book sale on September 15. **Maverick** has offered its excess books to other branches for their book sales. At **Oakwell** the roof has been repaired. Its next meeting is Oct 20. **Semmes**

had a successful book sale, earning over \$4,000. It will have a birthday party on Nov 3 at 10:00 a.m. **Thousand Oaks** will be celebrating its 20th anniversary on Nov 17. A book sale is scheduled for Nov 11. **Westfall** will have a book sale on Nov 3. **Writer Friends** had a meeting on Sept 12.

**Cathy Dean** reported that District 10 of the Texas Library Association established a memorial scholarship in **John Powell's** name. John first worked at Thousand Oaks and then was branch manager at McCreless and Forest Hills libraries. The scholarship will help library studies students participate in Texas Library Association events.

**Linda Nairn** reported that **Nancy Gandara** had several passes to the Shrine Circus (Sept 20–23), which were donated to the Friends for anyone who wanted to use them.

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

## This is your membership renewal F.A.Q.\* sheet

Claudia Kohler

Please share this information with your Friends groups at your next meeting.

**1** *When will renewal letters be sent out?* Look for them in mid October. Encourage your members to send them back A.S.A.P. to avoid the costs of a second mailing.

**2** *I'm a Life member, so I don't need to do anything, right?* We need to hear from Life members annually to keep our information current and also to let us know which branch they wish to designate for the upcoming year. If they do not designate a branch, the branch they supported last year will not receive their \$5.00 the next year. We have many Life members who continue to donate each year, and we appreciate them very much.

**3** *I've joined as an individual, but I would like to support more than one branch. How do I do this?* Easy, just include an extra \$5 for each additional branch and write the branch name on the membership envelope.

**4** *I'm a Life member, does this make my spouse a Life member too?* No, Patron, Contributors, and Life memberships are all on an individual basis. So please state clearly on your envelope what your intentions are for each person to match the funds you send.

**5** *I don't want my phone number to be in the directory, what can I do?* There is a place on the membership envelope to indicate you do not want to be listed. If you were unlisted previously, but your number shows up on the envelope without a note to keep it unlisted, it will be listed. If we have a phone number and you do not put it on your envelope, we will move the number to "unlisted".

**6** *Do you want my email address?* If you want your branch officers to have it, please write it very clearly on the envelope.

**7** *When will I get my new membership card?* They will be mailed after the first of the year so we can take advantage of the bulk mailing rates.

**8** *What if I have a problem?* Call the treasurer if it is a money question: **Nancy Gandara**, 210-695-9648. Notify the membership chair if your new card does not show the selections you thought you made: **Claudia Kohler**, 210-372-0241, or email [mytexasroom@satx.rr.com](mailto:mytexasroom@satx.rr.com).

\*Frequently Asked Questions

## Sail Away with Books Summer Reading 2007 Children's Services San Antonio Public Library



### Reading Club

Total registration: 16,642 children

Total completion: 7,193 children reading at least 106,395 books

Completion rate: 43%

### Summer Programs for School Age Children

Total offered at all locations: 202

Total attendance at summer programs: 11,190

Average attendance per program: 55

### Summer Circulation

Total circ in June: 497,730. Juvenile circ in June: 231,069 (46%)

Total circ in July: 496,930. Juvenile circ in July: 218,733 (44%)

Total circ in Aug: 431,128. Juvenile circ in Aug: 175,492 (41%)

### Funding

#### Friends of the Library

San Antonio Public Library Foundation

Target Stores

### Contributions

San Antonio Missions Baseball

CPS Energy

San Antonio Public Library Foundation

First Book

Newman Foundation

#### Viki Ash

Coordinator of Children's Services

San Antonio Public Library

## Memorials and Donations

*In Memory of*

*By*

**Jo Davis**

**Elizabeth "Betsy" Davis**

**Wilma Hardy**

**Josephine Smith**

**Irene and Joseph Difranco**

*Sheila Figueroa*

**Dorothy F. Griffin**

**Tootie Mertz, Ele Jackson, Patty Sloan,  
Bunny Longenecker, Pat Cloud**

**Ed and Shirley Hightower, Pat and  
Charles Howell, Bethany Pheneger**

**Amy Dameron Phipps and  
David A. Phipps**

**Robert and Rosalie Klepac**

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# Wrestling with Your Friends Group

## Part 1: Avoiding the dreaded death match!

Julia Ousley

The ballroom Tango is hands-on, exciting interaction. That's exactly what we should all want from the librarian-friends group relationship. On the other hand, wrestling is confrontational, melodramatic, and...well...aggressive. Is your library-friends relationship more like a death match rather than a wonderfully choreographed event that gives audiences their ticket's worth?

Few librarians or close lay advocates want to admit that their relationship is anything other than ideal. Secretly, though, do you librarians sometimes wonder if the energy expenditure necessary to keep your volunteers going is worth it? Librarians are certainly committed to their libraries—that's their job. We volunteers are also—that's why we've chosen to invest our free time and energy in your mission to serve others. Still, despite this bounty of good will and dedication, we cannot escape having differences. Too often, I think, in an effort to promote peace, we ignore those disagreements, focusing instead on the non-controversial areas that are easy to communally embrace. Sometimes, this easy road keeps us from forcing better teamwork to take us further in our drive to make our libraries stronger.

Sometimes, differences in personalities and styles confuse the issues. Do you feel as if there are "civilians" in your library's orbit who require your immediate and undivided attention and resources to keep them going, or worse, do you find the

constant need to keep them from careening off on a course which could derail your own efforts? You wouldn't be the only librarian to feel that way. If you are a friend or lay supporter, do you sometimes find yourself feeling underappreciated, underused, or not taken seriously? As we work to take better heed of each others' abilities and contributions, we also need to put egos aside and look objectively at our shared goals and unique skills and talent.

When personality and style differences have been dealt with, I firmly believe most of the difficulties between friends groups and their library organizers stem from misunderstanding (and not fully articulating) the library's goals, how friends and supporters can help, the strengths and assets friends bring to the table, the needs and limitations of staff, and the incredible mutual need of both library professionals and their greater civilian library community.

### Depending on Each Other

Trained as a microbiologist, I tend to observe matters empirically. Symbiosis is a close association between two different types of organisms in a community. Mutualistic symbiosis can be defined as: The living together in permanent or prolonged close association of members of usually two different species, with beneficial consequences for both, and neither suffers. This might be considered a model or metaphor for our situation.

Interestingly enough, Wikipedia ties in the works of endosymbiosis specialist **Lynn Margulis**, who contends that symbiosis is a major driving force behind evolution. "She considers Darwin's notion of evolution, driven by competition, as incomplete, and claims evolution is strongly based on cooperation, interaction, and mutual dependence among organisms. According to Margulis and Sagan (1986), 'Life did not take over the globe by combat, but by networking.' As in humans, organisms that cooperate with others of their own or different species *often out-compete those that do not.*(emphasis mine)"

If we consider the ideal relationship between library professionals and the members of their larger library community one of mutualistic symbiosis, we recognize that, though perhaps widely disparate, the two groups together can be much stronger and healthier than they can be separately. While not exactly different species, the professional and members of the broader library community might as well be, unique in their tastes, pursuits, and politics, and often seeing only their own side of any matter, and missing out on the satisfying progress resulting from true collaborative effort. Just as a good marriage hinges on two way communication and efforts, so does the marriage of professional library people and the larger library community, composed of well wishers, enthusiasts, organized Friends, boards, and foundations.

Further, if Margulis' premise of symbiosis as a survival determinant is examined, we certainly should be trying to promote it within the library "family," especially in light of hostile challenges from without and stingy funding entities.

### Foxhole Etiquette

The fact is: We are in a battlefield, and the library professionals and their supporters, whether Friends of the Library, boards, foundations, or independents, share a foxhole, and everybody knows that you don't shoot the others who are in your foxhole with you! In fact, your own well being often depends on their health and well being. You make a point to overlook their objectionable idiosyncrasies, as they do yours, and even proactively work on the relationship, nurturing and feeding each other so that you both are strengthened and your common goals are met.

When Rodney King asked, "Why can't we all just get along?!" he verbalized the crux of the matter. World peace may be unattainable, but I can control myself and my attitudes so that I interact with others so as to demonstrate respect for them, their ideas, and their goals. At the 2007 Legislative Day, I was huddled together with a number of other TLA folks waiting to go in to speak to a legislator, when one strongly reacted to the news that this particular representative home schooled his children. "I hate home schoolers," she hissed in my ear, "I think it's intellectual incest!" What

*Continued on p 9.*

## Library District Update

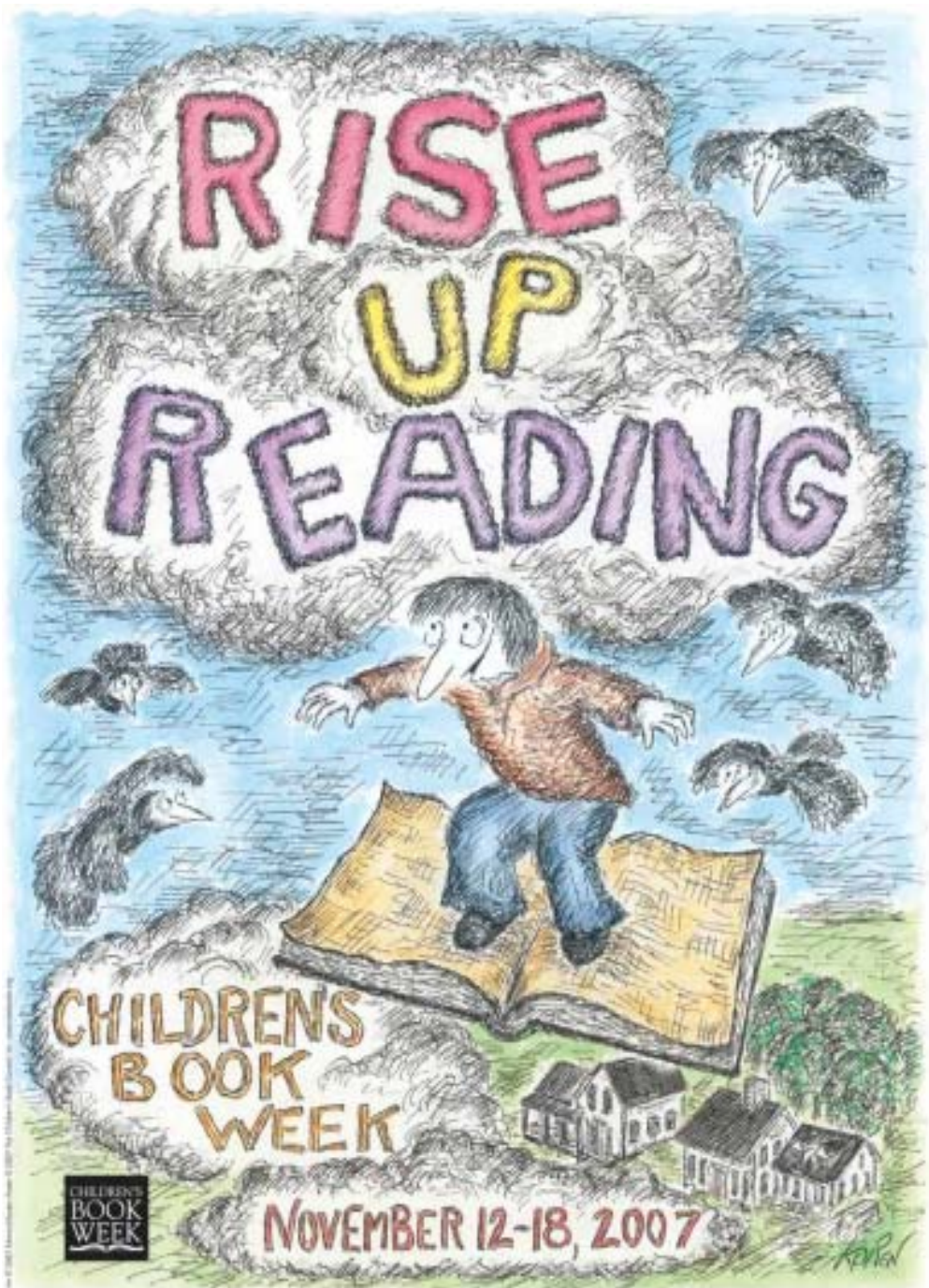
Ramiro Salazar, Director, and Jessica Ramos, Special Projects Coordinator, San Antonio Public Library

As previously reported, the Library District Commission delivered its final report with findings and recommendations to the San Antonio City Council on June 20, and to the Bexar County Commissioners Court on July 11. Since these presentations, the City Council and Commissioners Court have continued to analyze the library district initiative. SAPL Board of Trustees Chair **Jean Brady**, Library District Commission Chair **John E. Newman, Jr.**, and Library Director **Ramiro Salazar** have met with members of City Council and Commissioners Court to answer questions and provide additional information regarding the library and library district initiative. The Library District Commission's report is available on the Library's webpage and can be found under the News and Events section, as can the Commission's charge and list of members.\*

The Library District Commission also delivered a presentation to the *Express-News* Editorial Board, and on July 8 the newspaper publicly endorsed the creation of a library district in Bexar County. The item cited years of chronic under-funding, high usage figures, and the importance of libraries in education as factors in the newspaper's rationale for supporting a multi-jurisdictional library district.

The San Antonio City Council was expected to take action on the Library District Commission's recommendations in August of this year. However, no action has been taken as of this writing.

[Editor's Note: See [www.sanantonio.gov/library/district](http://www.sanantonio.gov/library/district). The 21-page report presents the results of the Blue Ribbon Library District Commission's research, including the five scenarios considered as possible revenue sources, and the commission's recommendations and conclusions.]



### How to Stay Out of Jail: Training for Friends, Boards, and 501(c)3s

The Alamo Area Library System (AALS) is presenting this workshop, to be held on Friday, November 16, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. It will be held at San Antonio Public Library in the 3rd floor meeting room (Children's Dept.). This workshop, presented by **Dorinda Rolle**, Rolle &

Associates, will provide useful training to library Friends & board members, in addition to management team members, on how to fulfill their legal responsibilities when handling important business & financial issues for their libraries. Register online at [www.aals.org](http://www.aals.org), or call Diane in the AALS Office at 210-207-2609.



## Spotlight on a Friend

Lena (Lee) LaCaff

*These words are in memory of Lee LaCaff, who died on October 11. The "Spotlight on a Friend" header was chosen in remembrance of an article she wrote about her husband Robert for the May-June 2006 issue of SAPLings, hoping to initiate a series of contributed articles.*

*Lee and Robert both became very active in the Friends after her retirement and were leaders in the Arts and Letters Awards program and many other Friends' projects. She served as our president for four years and was a gracious mentor to individual Friends, leading some into District- and State-level groups within the Texas Library Association. Lee will*



*be remembered as our very special Friend, and, with Robert's permission, we are adapting excerpts from her obituary to share more of her story with you.*

**Mary McAfee and  
Cathy Dean**

Lee earned B.S. and M.A. degrees before going on for her M.S. degree in Library Science at the University of Arizona in Tucson. She worked as a library director in public, high school, college, and Army and Air Force base and hospital libraries in Pennsylvania, Germany, Kentucky, Maryland, and California. Her love and respect for the library profes-

sion were surpassed only by her over-50-year romance with husband Robert. They met in Mainz, Germany, in 1952 where she was a Special Services Librarian directing Army libraries in the American-Mainz Occupation Zone. They were married in December 1954, a loving union tempered by the groom's promise to always return all long overdue library books. [In her 2006 article, Lee reported Robert's library reputation of "being a very good reader, but a very poor borrower" because of his tendency to keep books long overdue.]

Robert's foreign assignments included several years each in Saraburi Province, Thailand, and Teheran, Iran, where both governments cited Lee in recognition of her willingness to share and apply her

knowledge of library science, to organize and teach English classes, and for her adaptation to the cultures, life, and religions of the guest country.

After moving to San Antonio in 1981, Lee became Coordinator of District 10 (Alamo Area Library System) of the Texas State Library, serving the District's 41 public libraries in 21 counties. She was active in the Texas Chapter EE, P.E.O., American Association of University Women, Friends of the San Antonio Public Library, Texas Library Association, Bexar County Library Association, San Antonio Council of Presidents, and a life member of MENSA.

Lee LaCaff will always remain very much alive in the memories of those who loved, respected, and treasured her.

passion, even though perhaps misguided! What a shame that she'd already built a wall against one of the great library-using, library-loving demographic groups! Thank goodness she didn't verbalize it to the legislator, who would certainly have taken umbrage. Well, of course, by then I wasn't about to disclose that I'd home schooled for nine years and considered it one of the great satisfactions of my parenting career! War zones are full of passions, but we must be careful to nurture constructive passions and curb any destructive ones. Friends and allies are too precious to lose at any time.

### Witnessing the Worst Case Scenario? Tell Me!

As a member of LiFTA (TLA's Round Table for Library Friends, Trustees, and

Advocates), I propose studying the relationship problems of library professionals and their communities. Is the sun always shining in your corner of Library Land, or have you seen, or been involved in, a library-Friends contretemps? Are your supporters willing to pitch in, write letters, advocate, and do whatever it takes to get funding for you, or do you grit your teeth and don your Kevlar vest and brass knuckles every time you enter Volunteer Valley? Does the FOL tail want to wag the library dog, or does it want a new dog altogether? Maybe your library civilian community is fossilized and immovable, satisfied by the status quo and reluctant to mobilize, even for their own good. Would you tell me about it?

While the symbiotic relationship, where both parties are enriched, enhanced, and nurtured, is ideal, many libraries experience a less-than-optimal relationship. Frustrated by the local library Friends group that would rather play bridge, a library director may withdraw her interaction or accessibility, which drives the Friends group to pull away even further, and the cycle of estrangement continues. How can the library director be better at organizing and motivating friends? How can library staff fully empower their human resources? How can Friends members help create synergy and a dynamic, motivated team?

Many, if not most, library professionals have good to very good rapport with their Friends, volunteers, and sup-

porters, and those successful experts on building symbiosis and synergy within the library community can help the rest of us by sharing what they're doing right! Maybe your library has a terrific situation right now, but we all can benefit from a slight rapport tune-up from time to time.

*Julie Ousley is a long time member of the New Braunfels Public Library Advisory Board, Alamo Area Library System 2006 Volunteer of the Year, and a 2006 TALL Texan. Her presentation on Altered and Recycled Books at TLA's 2007 Annual Conference derived from the project that won the AALS 2007 Unique Fundraiser Award.*

This article was published in the *Texas Library Journal* and is reproduced here with the expressed consent of the Texas Library Association.

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## Form for Gifts, Donations, and Memorials

Honor a loved one with a remembrance for birthdays, anniversaries, or "just because." It can also be a wonderful, thoughtful, and lasting way to honor the memory of a relative or friend.

If you do not want to make a contribution at this time, clip this form and save it for the appropriate occasion.

I would like to make the following donation:

- In honor of     In memory of
- Special event (birthday, graduation, etc.)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (All donations are tax deductible.)

### Acknowledgement to:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

### My Name and Address:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Please fill out in full, make your check payable to:

Friends of the San Antonio Public Library  
and mail to: **Sheila Figueroa**, Chair, Gifts, Donations,  
& Memorials

Friends of the San Antonio Public Library (FOSAPL)  
P.O. Box 461523, San Antonio, Texas 78246



## FRIENDS of the SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC LIBRARY Membership Application

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Individual (Adult)            \$ 15

\_\_\_\_ Dual (Adult)                 \$ 25

\_\_\_\_ Individual (Teen, Ages 13-18)    \$ 5

\_\_\_\_ Patron (Per Person)            \$ 50

\_\_\_\_ Contributing (Per Person)       \$100

\_\_\_\_ Life (Per Person)               \$250

\_\_\_\_ New Member

\_\_\_\_ Renewal

Branch Group \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Do not include my phone number in the Friends' directory.

\_\_\_\_ I'd like to volunteer at the Book Cellar (used book store).

\_\_\_\_ Please call me: I'd like to be an active participant.

**MAKE YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO: Friends of the San Antonio Public Library (or FOSAPL).**  
**Your contribution is tax deductible.**

and mail to:

Friends of the San Antonio Public Library (FOSAPL)

P.O. Box 461523

San Antonio, Texas 78246

(Note: Membership is from Jan. 1—Dec. 31. Members receive a renewal notice in early Dec.)

# INCOME AND EXPENSE DETAILS

**August 31, 2007**

*Submitted by Nancy Gandara*

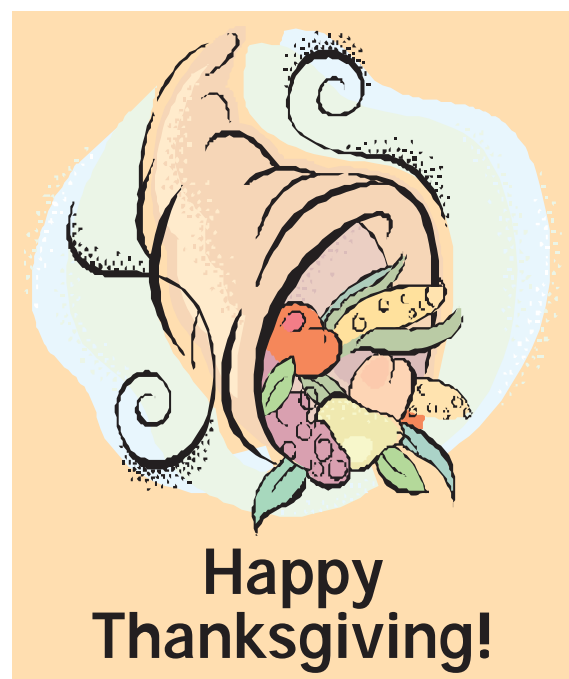
	Budget	Jul/Aug 07	FOSAPL YTD	Groups YTD
<b>Income</b>				
Book Cellar Sales / Group Book Sales	\$65,000	\$20,768.86	\$54,327.37	\$31,706.70
Donations	\$3,523	\$4,041.90	\$2,091.00	\$5,494.98
Interest	\$6,250	\$1,075.18	\$4,181.13	
Membership	\$8,000	\$515.00	\$12,575.00	\$3,205.00
FOSAPL Income	\$82,773	\$26,400.94	\$73,174.50	
Branch/Groups Income				\$40,406.68
Transfer from Savings	\$37,227			
Assets to be Used During 2007	\$120,000			
<b>Expenses</b>				
Accounting	\$2,250	\$125.00	\$415.00	
Arts and Letters	\$400			
Bank Charges	\$50	\$168.25	\$202.50	
Book Cellar Expenses				
Advertising	\$2,000	\$884.00	\$884.00	
Commodities for resale	\$600		\$423.00	
Equipment & Maintenance	\$2,500	\$898.89	\$1,269.71	
Internet & software	\$200	\$39.99	\$89.99	
Printing / copying	\$200		\$38.60	
Recruitment of volunteer workers	\$750			
Salary & benefits	\$7,200	\$1,180.00	\$4,719.50	
Volunteer Appreciation	\$500		\$668.70	
Water service	\$652	\$73.50	\$285.75	
Branch / Group Operating Expenses				\$2,244.87
Bulk Mail	\$1,500		\$160.00	
FOLUSA Membership	\$100		\$370.00	
FOSAPL Committee Expenses	\$400	\$66.86	\$188.56	
FOSAPL Donor Recognition	\$1,000			
Friends recognition	\$300			
Insurance (bonding)	\$125			
Library Support				
Programming for public [all year, all ages]	\$40,000		\$23,069.72	
Staff development & training	\$40,000		\$20,000.00	
Memorial gifts for FOSAPL Life Members	no funding amt.		\$200.00	
Various Branch / Group Purchases				\$33,503.39
Mail Box	\$100		\$72.00	
Newsletter Prep/Editing	\$1,800	\$500.00	\$1,300.00	
Newsletter Printing	\$2,800	\$347.44	\$1,972.40	
Office Supplies	\$1,500		\$103.87	
Parking	\$4,600	\$472.75	\$2,485.75	
Postage	\$623		\$163.80	
President's Expenses	\$350		\$70.00	
Sales Tax (Book Cellar and Branches)	\$10,000	\$4,040.33	\$6,903.70	
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$122,500</b>	<b>\$8,797.01</b>	<b>\$66,056.55</b>	<b>\$35,748.26</b>

## Branch & Special Interest Group Funds August 31, 2007

Accounts	Balance
Money Market Gold Account	\$137,881.33
Checking Account	\$68,464.99
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$206,346.32</b>
Branch-designated Funds	\$71,376.13
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$71,376.13</b>
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>\$134,970.19</b>

### Branch & Special-Interest Group Funds

	Dec. 31, 2006	Aug. 31, 2007
Bazan	\$781.73	\$1,101.05
Brook Hollow	\$16,017.85	\$14,803.82
Carver	\$1,875.63	\$1,564.31
Cody	\$8,494.84	\$2,741.13
Forest Hills	\$895.87	\$2,323.17
Guerra	\$2,843.46	\$1,532.32
Johnston	\$1,031.76	\$2,072.50
Landa (pending official formation and approval)	\$30.00	
Maverick	\$3,545.48	\$1,742.24
McCreless	\$6,053.73	\$4,817.21
Memorial	\$5,683.31	\$5,301.60
Oakwell	\$3,386.55	\$4,942.01
Semmes	\$1,370.88	\$1,025.42
Texana/Genealogy	\$12,711.31	\$14,834.08
Thousand Oaks	\$5,037.97	\$5,240.99
Westfall	\$4,674.98	\$4,798.44
Writers	\$2,267.39	\$2,505.84
<b>Total Group Funds</b>	<b>\$76,672.74</b>	<b>\$71,376.13</b>





P.O. Box 461523  
San Antonio, Texas 78246

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San Antonio, Texas  
Permit No. 865

## CALENDAR OF BOOK SALES AND SPECIAL EVENTS

*Because dates and times change occasionally, please call and verify information.*

- Nov 3 Semmes 2nd Birthday Celebration, 11 a.m.  
Nov 3 Thousand Oaks Friends Book Sale  
Nov 3 Westfall Book Sale, 9:30 a.m.–4 p.m.  
Nov 3 Grand Reopening of San Pedro Branch Library, 10:30 a.m.  
**Nov 4 Arts & Letters Awards Ceremony, 2 p.m., Central Library Auditorium**  
Nov 7 McCreless Friends meeting, guest speaker, **Deborah Douglas, M.D.**, author  
Nov 9-10 Johnston Friends Book Sale  
Nov 10 McCreless Friends Book Sale, 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m.  
Nov 10-11 Guerra Book Sale  
Nov 13 Writer Friends meeting, 7 p.m., Cody Library, panel discussion  
with **Newton Renfro** and **Douglas Kirk**  
Nov 16 Tobin at Oakwell Preview Book Sale for all FOSAPL members, 1–4 p.m.  
Nov 17 Thousand Oaks 20th Birthday party  
Nov 17 Brook Hollow Friends Book Sale  
Nov 17 Tobin Library at Oakwell Friends Book Sale, 10 a.m.–3 p.m.  
**Nov 18 FOSAPL Board Meeting, 2 p.m., Forest Hills Library**  
Dec 1 Friends of Tobin at Oakwell Annual Meeting, 2 p.m.  
Dec 3 Grand Reopening of Tobin Library at Oakwell, 11 a.m.  
Dec 8 Grand Opening of John Igo Branch Library, 10 a.m.  
**Jan 20 General Meeting, 2 p.m., Central Library Auditorium**

**Note:** Each branch Friends group has a designated representative to the Board. However, these Board meetings are open to the general membership. All members are invited and encouraged to attend.

Brook Hollow Library  
530 Heimer Road, 78232  
210-496-6315  
Central Library  
600 Soledad Street, 78205  
210-207-2500  
Cody Library  
11441 Vance Jackson, 78230  
210-696-6396  
Forest Hills Library  
5245 Ingram Rd., 78228  
210-431-2544  
Guerra Library  
7978 Military Dr W, 78227  
210-673-1492  
Igo Library  
7938 W. Hausman Rd., 78249  
Johnston Library  
6307 Sun Valley, 78227  
210-674-8410  
McCreless Library  
1023 Ada Street, 78223  
210-532-4254  
San Pedro Library  
1315 San Pedro, 78212  
210-733-1454  
Semmes Library  
15060 Judson Rd., 78247  
210-650-9540  
Thousand Oaks Library  
4618 Thousand Oaks, 78233  
210-657-5205  
Tobin Library at Oakwell  
4134 Harry Wurzbach Rd, 78209  
210-828-2569  
Westfall Library  
6111 Rosedale Court, 78201  
210-344-2373